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*The Global Design Issue: The best new interiors
and products from home and abroad*

Rising Hospitality Firms

5 dynamic studios to watch

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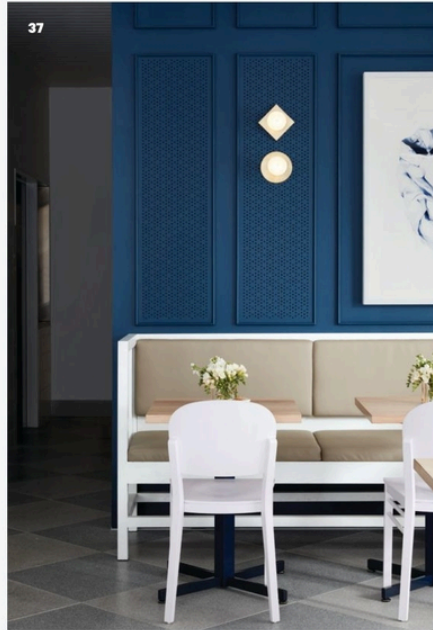
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EDITORIAL

Uncertain Times

We live in extraordinary times. Because of COVID-19 and the World Health Organization's declaration of a global pandemic in March, the canceling of major architecture and design trade shows, such as ICFF, HD Expo, and Salone Del Mobile, has left a void for the design community. Yet one thing I know for sure is that it takes more than a virus to stop our community's creative minds from coming up with unique, fresh, and innovative products. While the physical trade shows won't happen until 2021, we have used this issue to showcase the many product introductions from the companies that were scheduled to debut at these important shows. These launches truly represent what's next in high-end design at home and abroad across all sectors, from innovative materials to kitchen and bath, soft contract, and residential crossover. We've also added some extra hospitality coverage—products that bring the warmth of home to commercial spaces and outdoor settings.

At *Contract*, we're always on the lookout for new and emerging talent, so in this issue we interview up-and-coming British designers Claudia Surrage and Christian Cowper, of the U.K.-based Phat studio, who take us behind the scenes of their first major collection of occasional tables for Bernhardt Design. We also showcase five design studios that are transforming the hospitality industry, delivering forward-thinking restaurants, bars, and hotels from Toronto to Melbourne, Australia.

Doing Good

In other news, I want to take this opportunity to invite and encourage you all to think about submitting your work to our quickly approaching Inspirations Awards, celebrating projects and practice-based initiatives that improve the quality of life for those in need

(the deadline is June 5). Winners are recognized for work completed for clients that serve a worthy cause. The clients, in turn, receive a generous grant from award sponsor Tarkett. Over the course of the past decade, Tarkett has given more than \$100,000 in grants to worthy causes. The grand-prize winner will receive a \$10,000 grant, while grants of \$3,000 and \$2,000 are awarded to two additional projects. It's important to recognize doing good in our design community. Good luck to all who enter!

Digital Offerings

Like everyone, we are having to adapt and improvise, but we will keep sharing news, ideas, and creative inspiration. Visit us at contractdesign.com and follow us on Instagram at @contractmag, where we continue the conversation on how to navigate these challenging times, with designer interviews, expert perspectives, and more. On behalf of myself, the *Contract* team, and our network of contributors—our thoughts are with you and we're doing everything we can to support our design community. Stay safe, and let's work together to plan for a better future through design!

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Paul Makovsky
Editor in Chief



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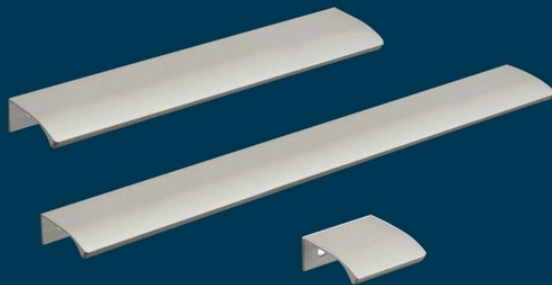
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IIDA Names Kia Weatherspoon Recipient of the 2020 Anna Hernandez/Luna Textiles Visionary Award



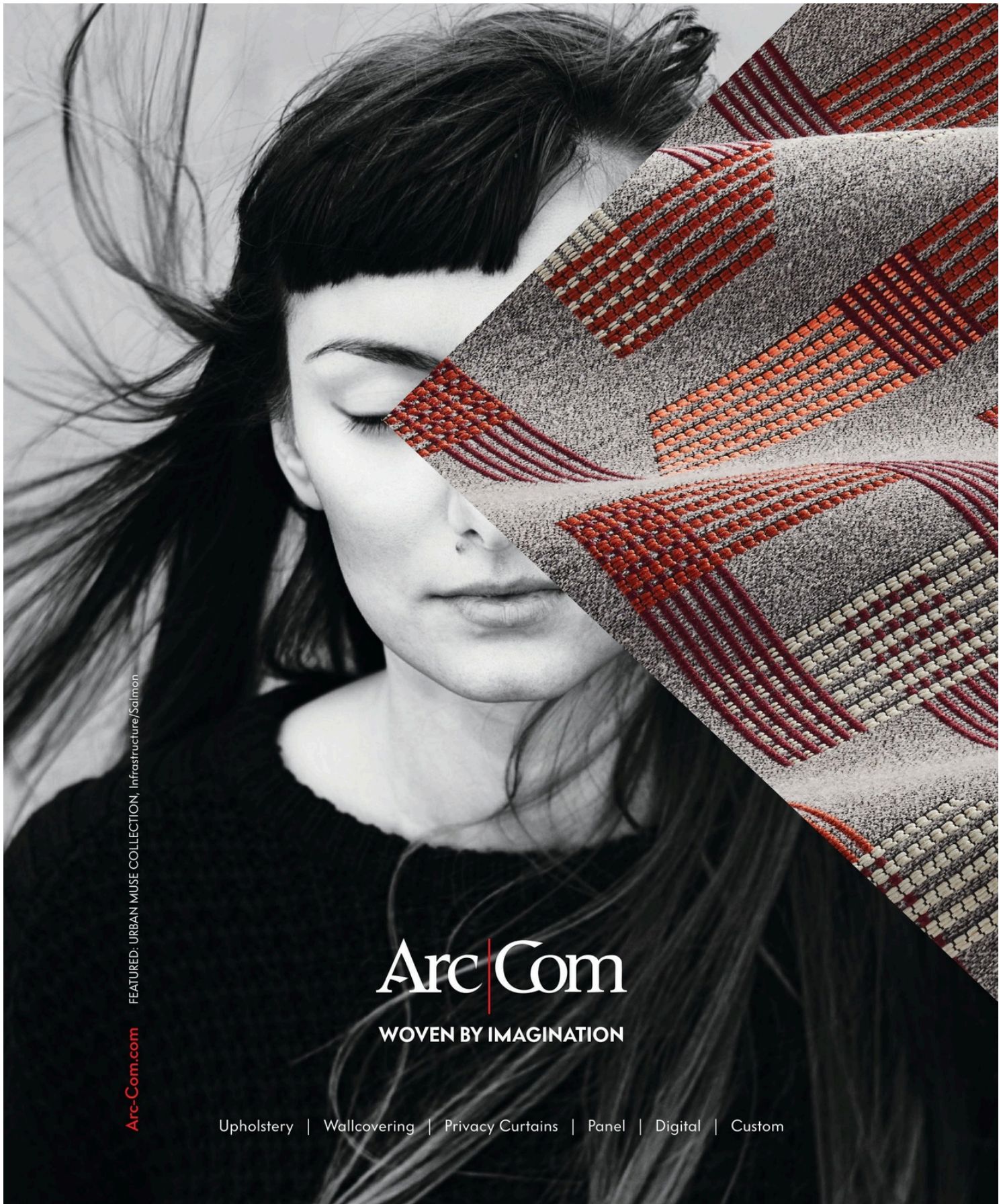
PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF IIDA

The IIDA Foundation, in partnership with *Contract* and Teknion, has presented Kia Weatherspoon, president of Determined by Design, with the 2020 Anna Hernandez/Luna Textiles Visionary Award. This award honors a woman business owner making valuable contributions to the design industry, awarding \$5,000 from the IIDA Foundation.

"We are so pleased to be honoring Kia with this award. She is a remarkable ambassador for equity and social justice through design," says Cheryl S. Durst, Hon. FIIDA, executive vice president and CEO of IIDA. "Her story and spirit are an inspiration, and her firm truly has the potential to create change in the world."

Weatherspoon's practice, Determined by Design, is based in Washington, D.C., and specializes in affordable housing in the region. Weatherspoon herself has made significant contributions to the design profession by advocating for design equity in low-income communities. She champions interior design as a standard for all, rather than a privilege for some, and has challenged developers, architectural partners, and general contractors to do better by those deemed less deserving of an elevated space.

Entries were reviewed by a committee of interior design industry professionals: Carol Bentel, IIDA, FAIA, architect and partner, Bentel & Bentel Architects, and chair of the BFA in Interior Design program at the School of Visual Arts; Jennifer Busch, Hon. IIDA, vice president of A&D, Teknion; Karen Donaghy, publisher, *Contract* magazine; and Ming Thompson, IIDA, AIA, co-founder, Atelier Cho Thompson, and 2019 Anna Hernandez/Luna Textiles Visionary Award recipient with her partner in practice, Christina Cho Yoo, IIDA, AIA. —MEGHAN DWYER



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SHOW DIRECTOR'S LETTER



ICFF Is Here for You

On March 16, we made the difficult decision to cancel ICFF 2020. Actually, I say “difficult,” but now that I reflect on it several weeks later, the decision to cancel was not a hard one. New York City, New York State, and national emergency decrees, the WHO’s declaration of a global pandemic on March 11, and multiple travel restrictions—whether imposed by governments or individual companies—coupled with our commitment to maintaining the health and safety of our community, made the decision for us. What was difficult then, and still is today, however, is comprehending the reality of our decision and the resulting impact on the ICFF and its manufacturers and specifiers.

Fast-forward to mid-April as this letter is written, and I’m left to contemplate the void of what for the ICFF team is typically crunch time: the last six weeks when the fair comes together. It’s an especially intense period that includes last-minute exhibitor sign-ups and assisting exhibitors with operational matters such as shipping and the ordering of electrical services. Too, there’s tweaking the audience development campaign, counseling exhibitors on how to market their participation, managing conference speakers, finalizing special events, producing the show guide, and much more.

As I consider it further, here’s a list of the top 10 things I’ll miss from now until May 20, 2020:

- 1 Reviewing stand designs both for adherence to ICFF display guidelines and to offer exhibitors cost-saving ideas. (Prior to March 16, Pablo, Qeeboo, VG+P, and Pinch had submitted dazzling new exhibit designs for ICFF 2020!)
- 2 Launching the ICFF/WantedDesign Manhattan colocation. The WantedDesign move to the Javits Center was set to bring 200 emerging resources to the market, all presented in a unique floor plan. Consider 2020 planning a helpful trial run.
- 3 The inspiration of the ICFF Design School exhibits, which help tell us where the next generation of product design is headed.
- 4 Discussions with attendees about not allowing baby strollers on the trade fair floor. (No, I will not miss that.)
- 5 Receiving product images from exhibitors, and oohing and ahing over new furniture, lighting, flooring, and wallcovering designs, in many instances supporting first-time manufacturer–product designer collaborations.
- 6 Working with ICFF Studio participants. The education and evolution of each Studio “class” are always special. We’ve already agreed with ICFF Studio sponsor Bernhardt Design to invite back all 13 of the 2020 winners to ICFF 2021.
- 7 Mediating disputes between exhibitors and union labor over work rules. (Nope. Won’t miss this one either.)
- 8 Watching the ICFF special-feature exhibits come to life. The 2020 lineup from Claesson Koivisto Rune (CKR), Float Studio, and Universal Design Studio was stellar. We look forward to picking up with each firm and its sponsors in a few months’ time for ICFF 2021.
- 9 The excitement of Opening Day. Overnight, that huge trade fair floor mess is magically transformed!
- 10 Seeing the ICFF community come together for four days in May to renew friendships, make new connections, and build business relationships.

While we won’t see each other this May, please know we deeply value the community’s ongoing loyalty to the ICFF, and look forward to seeing you in May 2021, and hopefully before then. In the interim, we are developing different ways to bring suppliers and buyers together, both formally and informally. Formally, look for new digital products and webinars from the ICFF focused on product launches and product designers. Informally, if you have a need, whether you are an architect looking to identify a resource, or a manufacturer looking to connect with a distributor or retailer, don’t hesitate to contact me directly at phil.robinson@icff.com and our team will do its best to personally assist. We are here to help!

Best regards.

Phil Robinson
ICFF Show Director





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The MT Bench, designed by Shinsaku Miyamoto, combines steel, wood, and leather for a contemporary statement piece that is available in two sizes. The thick woven leather seat is offered in black, vintage brown/dark brown, burgundy, or taupe gray; the frame is available in black powder-coated steel or hairline stainless steel; and acrylic urethane coatings are available in six colors, for a fully customizable look.

ritzwell.com

**2. Poltrona Frau: Get Back Seating**

For their third design inspired by the Beatles for Poltrona Frau, Ludovica and Roberto Palomba have designed Get Back. The product of in-depth research into comfort, the seating system is defined by spacious open lines, reclined backrests that encourage relaxation, two types of armrest, and numerous modular elements to combine freely in lots of different compositions.

poltronafrau.com

3. Veneta Cucine: Milano

A contemporary interpretation of the frame door, Milano meets the demands of today's kitchen environment with elegant, classic form. Inspired by traditional Italian design, the kitchen furnishings provide uncluttered and expressive style.

venetacucine.com



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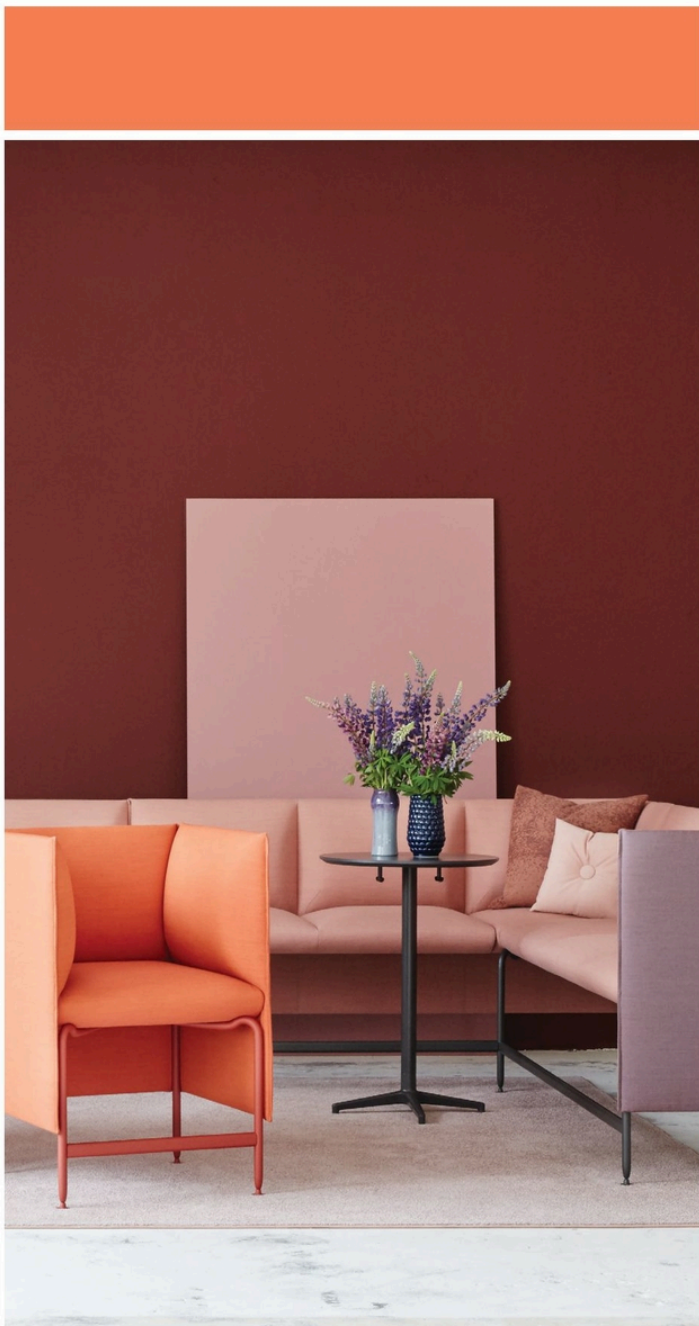
Eligible entries are completed projects or practice-based initiatives which improve the quality of life for those in need. Entries may be paid or pro-bono projects.

The worthy cause of the top honoree will receive a \$10,000 Grant. Additional honorees' project causes will also receive substantial financial grants.

Inspirations 2020 will be awarded in a special presentation by Contract. Honored work will be featured in Contract.

contractdesign.com/inspirationsawards

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scandinavianspaces.com



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4. B&B Italia: Ayana Collection

Designed by Naoto Fukasawa, the Ayana collection is defined by its rounded elements—a departure from the traditional square shape that defines many outdoor furnishings. Natural teak, which will age and weather naturally, and wooden pins give the collection a primitive appearance. Additionally, upholstered cushions can be easily fastened and removed from the two- and three-seat sofas and armchair.

bebitalia.com

5. Marca Corona: Overlay Tile

Inspired by the very material from which it is made—clay—Overlay pays homage to the natural material through a modernized interpretation in a full-body porcelain tile available in seven earth tones, five large rectified sizes, and two different finishes.

marcacorona.it



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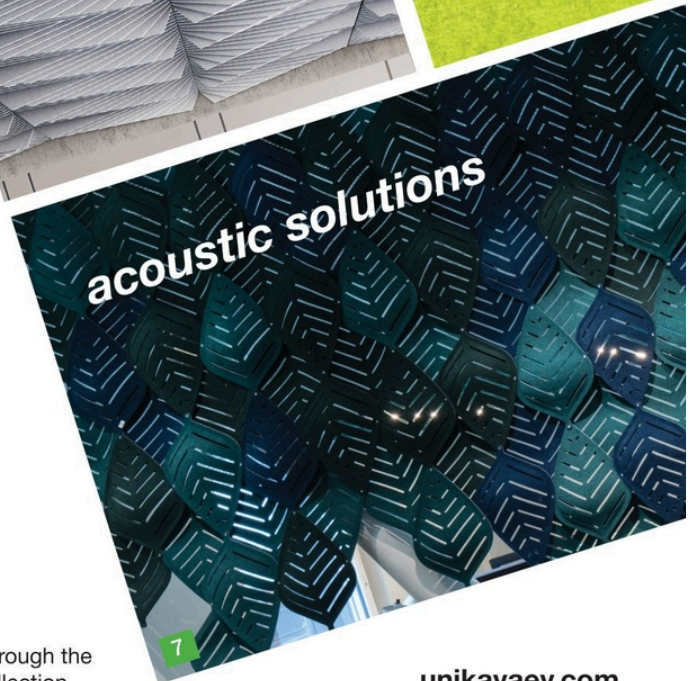


1. Ecooustic® Gravura Infinity by Unika Vaev Studios. 2. Lovi Acoustic Trees design by Anne Paso. 3. Kula design by Bryndís Bolladóttir. 4. Ecooustic® Tango design by Maxwell Madden. 5. Ecooustic Sculpt™ Ceiling Tile Peak design by Philip Adams. 6. Fraster Felt to use for creating your custom rug design by Trine Neve. 7. Airleaf Hanging Screen design by Stefan Borselius.



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acoustic solutions



7

unikavaev.com

PRODUCT TREND

NOSTALGIC LUXURY

At a time of collective anxiety and a yearning for a simpler era, designers and manufacturers are looking to the nostalgic return of the strangely familiar—recalling comforting details of past decades such as Art Deco decorative touches, '70s glam finishes, and a return to high-end craftsmanship with unique, sensuous finishes combined with soft contours and voluptuous proportions. Blending style with function, these products transform distinctive silhouettes into luxurious sculptural forms.

**1. Pedrali Jazz Chair**

Harmony of shapes, ergonomics, and elegance are the characteristics of the Jazz chair. The seat and the curved backrest are supported by a light steel structure. Personalization is ensured by the combination of the upholstery, in fabric or simulated leather, and different steel finishes.

pedrali.it

**2. Ceramica Sant'Agostino Insideart Tile**

Insideart reinterprets terrazzo on a new level, infusing it with drama and a painterly touch. The "Palladian Star" and "Palladian Moon" patterns feature massive fragments of swirling, marbled color inspired by manually applied resin, presenting a fresh take on this classic material.

ceramicasantagostino.it

**3. Ligne Roset Hémicycle Conversation Seating**

This sofa, designed by Philippe Nigro for the official government buildings of France, is meant for use in institutions and public spaces. It's part of a collection that includes an armchair, a settee, and finally a conversation seat for two people.

ligne-roset.com

4. Fermob Bobop Table

This aluminum table, designed by Tristan Lohner, is ultralight, and slim, and works equally as a side table or pedestal table, indoors and outdoors.

fermobusa.com

**5. TON Ginger Armchair**

Designed by the Yonoh studio, this lightweight and compact armchair blends gentle contours with a comfortable contemporary design. Inspired by the bulbous stem of the medicinal ginger plant, the upholstered armchair is solidly built without appearing heavy. A slight bend on the upper part of the chair legs pays homage to TON's signature wood-bending technique.

ton.eu

**6. Dante Goods and Bads Come As You Are Bar Cart**

By reducing the quantity of components to its essence, the three-dimensional use of the outer railing, which acts to envelop and unite the two overlapping serving surfaces, overcomes the soberness of this archetype of the serving trolley.

dante.lu

Model 8

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5 rising hospitality firms you should know

By Murrye Bernard

These design studios are transforming the hospitality industry, delivering inspired, forward-looking restaurants, bars, and hotels around the world from Toronto to Melbourne, Australia.

FEATURE

Cofounded by Alex Hopkins and Carley Nicholls (bottom left), Studio Tate has designed interiors for Workshop Brothers Southbank (right), featuring orb sconces, curved timber moldings, and a checkerboard floor, which combine to create a convivial hub for patrons. Toby's Estate evokes the gravitas of a bank with plush velvet seating (below) and black, green, and white marble floors (below, right). Bold yet refined describes the interior of Middletown Café (opposite, bottom), and its muse is Duchess of Cambridge Kate Middleton.



PHOTOGRAPHY: FELIX FOREST



Studio Tate

Location Melbourne, Australia
Founded 2014

Following stints at the firms Carr Design and Elenberg Fraser, Alex Hopkins cofounded Studio Tate in Melbourne, Australia, with her business partner Carley Nicholls in 2014. “We embark on every project with a dynamic approach that is grounded in curiosity, a highly considered methodology, and a refined, polished finish,” Hopkins says.

Studio Tate crafts hospitality spaces with a focus on richly layered materials and thoughtful detailing in which classic meets contemporary. The palette of Middletown Café celebrates the textures of brickwork, stone, perforated metal, and intricate parquet, all grounded by walls of deep blue and softened by feminine details such as brass accents, pastel furnishings, and unstained timbers. Inspired by the great brasseries of New York, the interiors of Workshop Brothers Riverside Southbank offer a convivial hub that provides customers with a sojourn from the everyday.

“Successful hospitality design considers not just the experience of the diner but the functionality and flow of service for the operator,” Hopkins believes. “A well-considered interior provides ambience and sets the tone, while skillfully and seamlessly addressing functionality—something that is not seen but unconsciously felt by the patron. This considers everything from how guests are greeted to how waitstaff retrieve and deliver food to the table.”

For Toby’s Estate coffee shop set within the ground-floor foyer of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia headquarters, Studio Tate employed rich tones and warm metallic finishes to evoke the gravitas of traditional treasury

design. Luxe materials reinforce the old-school feeling, from black, green, and white marble to plush velvet upholstered banquette seating. Recalling bankers’ desks and furnishings, vintage-inspired details include bullnose benchtops replete with brass kick rails and high bars with integrated lighting.

Even given the current situation in the world, which is keeping us out of hospitality venues, Hopkins remains positive about the future of design. “Perhaps this humanitarian and economic disaster will enhance our appreciation of the role hospitality venues play in our lives,” she says. “Yes, they serve a functional purpose of nourishing us or providing that all-important coffee or glass of wine—but they also provide a framework for connection and the evolution of our communities. When we find a new normal, hospitality design may well be more appreciated and noticed. Studio Tate looks forward to this design challenge.”



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FEATURE

GRT Architects was founded by Tal Schori and Rustam Mehta (opposite, bottom right). Bourke Street Bakery (right) features salmon-pink concrete floors, built-in wood furniture, and cork wall paneling. Italian-American restaurant Don Angie (bottom) combines Italian glamour with the comfort of New Jersey red sauce. Rethinking the traditional steakhouse, Georgie (opposite two) in Dallas mixes travertine, marble, and plush upholstery for a warm and sophisticated dining experience.



PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL VAHRENWALD/ISTO (TOP); NICOLE FRANZEN (BOTTOM)



GRT Architects

Locations New York/New Haven, Connecticut
Founded 2015

Partners Tal Schori and Rustam Mehta met in third grade, and both went on to study history and work in the arts before returning to school to become architects. In 2015, they both left jobs at medium-size firms to form GRT Architects within a tiny studio over a gin distillery in Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

Schori and Mehta approach each project by asking questions of clients: "We respect the deep knowledge that families have about their use of space, restaurateurs have about service, and artists have about spaces to create," Mehta says. The partners draw from their visual and technical skills as well as historical knowledge to provide solutions to problems clients might not even have known they had. "Rather than start with a mood board, we start by looking for some deep structure or grounding from which to build decisions together," Mehta says. "Our best work results when we are able to reframe the brief in a way that at once makes sense but is unexpected."

As is the nature of designing in New York, many of GRT Architects' projects involve renovations, often within buildings with strong character

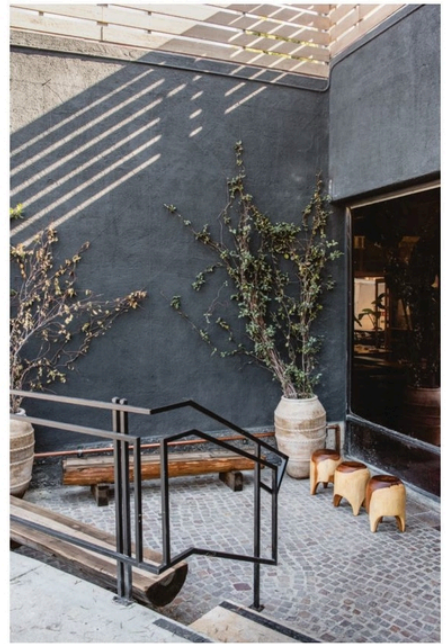
or history. They aim to acknowledge that inherent meaning and preserve character while showcasing modern interventions. Bourke Street Bakery, which is located on the ground floor of The James Hotel NoMad in a historic landmark building with a Beaux Arts facade, features exposed steel beams that serve as a watermark to divide wall finishes; below this line is cork paneling and custom cherry millwork, and above is corrugated steel that transitions to fully exposed mechanical systems. The state-of-the-art commercial kitchen is visible to patrons, putting the act of baking on display within this warm, textured environment lit by globe fixtures.

Mehta believes the industry will emerge from these uncertain times in a unique place. "When customers are welcomed back in, we think it will be with a huge sense of gratitude and appreciation for the excitement of being in a public space," he says. "We don't want to be glib about any of this, but we hope a new spirit of community and appreciation between customers and hospitality spaces will emerge, and as we read that mood, we will be able to contribute to it."



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FEATURE



PHOTOGRAPHY: HANNAH WILSON

Architects Lionel Real de Azúa, Ciarán O'Brien, and Lucas Che Tizard (bottom) founded Red Deer, which recently completed its first U.S. project in Los Angeles, Grá (this page and opposite). The restaurant is located in Echo Park in a disused old bar with original trusses and a concrete core. The vibe here is relaxed with flowing drapes, reclaimed lighting, plenty of plants, and curated midcentury furniture.



Red Deer

Locations London/Los Angeles/Barcelona, Spain
Founded 2011

Architects Lionel Real de Azúa, Ciarán O'Brien, and Lucas Che Tizard founded Red Deer in 2011. They have ancestry from France, North America, Uruguay, Argentina, Great Britain, and Ireland, all sharing a common inhabitant in the red deer species—hence the name.

"We describe ourselves as 'grown-ups with crayons' referencing our approach to work as creative, without boundaries and excited by challenges," says O'Brien. "We consider design as the playful pursuit of studied carelessness."

After completing a variety of hospitality designs in London, the firm recently finalized its first U.S. project in Los Angeles, Grá, a sourdough pizza and natural wine restaurant in the Echo Park neighborhood. Grá is the Irish word for "love," and Red Deer aimed to create a space that felt of its place while echoing the designers' European sensibilities. Located in a disused old bar with original trusses and a concrete core, the restaurant features an open-plan kitchen and a patio dining area with an internal courtyard. This relaxed yet refined feel is echoed in unhemmed branch drapes,

slouch breeze block banquettes, reclaimed lighting, and curated midcentury furniture.

Red Deer is cognizant that the current world situation will alter the hospitality experience of the future. "We understand how important experience is to hospitality. It is more than just customer service," says O'Brien. "Finding ways to connect with customers beyond walking into a venue is what many are now considering, and we expect to see some fast technological advances because of what we have all experienced this year."



contract

FEATURE



PHOTOGRAPHY: ENRIC BADRINAS (TOP); SALVA LÓPEZ (BOTTOM LEFT); JOSÉ HEVIA AND BENJAMIN IBORRA WICKSTEED (BOTTOM RIGHT)

Founded by Jaime Font Furest, Carlos Dimas Carmona, Marcos Parera Blanch, Benjamin Iborra Wicksteed, and Jordi Espinet Roma (bottom), MESURA has worked on projects including the Bunsen restaurant (above), in which a ceramic bench wraps the interior. The new swimming pool at Peratallada Castle (right) is a modern intervention within a medieval fortress, and the Cheriff restaurant (far right) features a reinvented terrazzo floor and wood-planked ceiling. At the Golf Hotel (opposite), expansive glass frames views of the lush landscape.



MESURA

Location Barcelona, Spain
Founded 2011

Now a team comprising designers, architects, creative directors, and technical engineers, MESURA was born in 2011 after its founders won the European competition in Dubrovnik, Croatia, a biennial competition for architects under 40. The brief was to create a design for a new public building, but the five soon-to-be-partners formulated a counterproposal for a public promenade rather than the typical iconic building.

This attitude informs the firm's work to date. "What made MESURA work was our dedication to do something different. If the project wasn't that interesting, we would make it interesting through research and then turning that research into a constructive and conceptual play of materials, a new particular system, a set of forms, etc.," the partners said in a collective statement. "We learned every space has the capacity to make an impact on the people who use it, no matter its scale or the type of client."

The term "authenticity" rings true throughout the firm's work. For the Cheriff restaurant in Barcelona, this is evident in the artisanship that permeates the space, from the reinvention of the terrazzo floor, combined with soft textile elements to create an intimate dining atmosphere.

MESURA artfully integrated modern interventions within the context of a medieval fortress dating back to the 10th century at Peratallada Castle. They were asked to articulate outdoor areas including a swimming pool, as well as converting parts of the fortress into a hotel with amenity spaces. The Golf Hotel, which offers a "slow travel experience," invites guests

to experience the life of a local of Empordà, Spain. The locality infuses the interiors, with natural materials framing views of the landscape.

"We are dedicated to the environment we build in," the partners maintain. "We investigate the local building culture, local materials, the way people live, as well as trends and mindsets we understand will define the future."

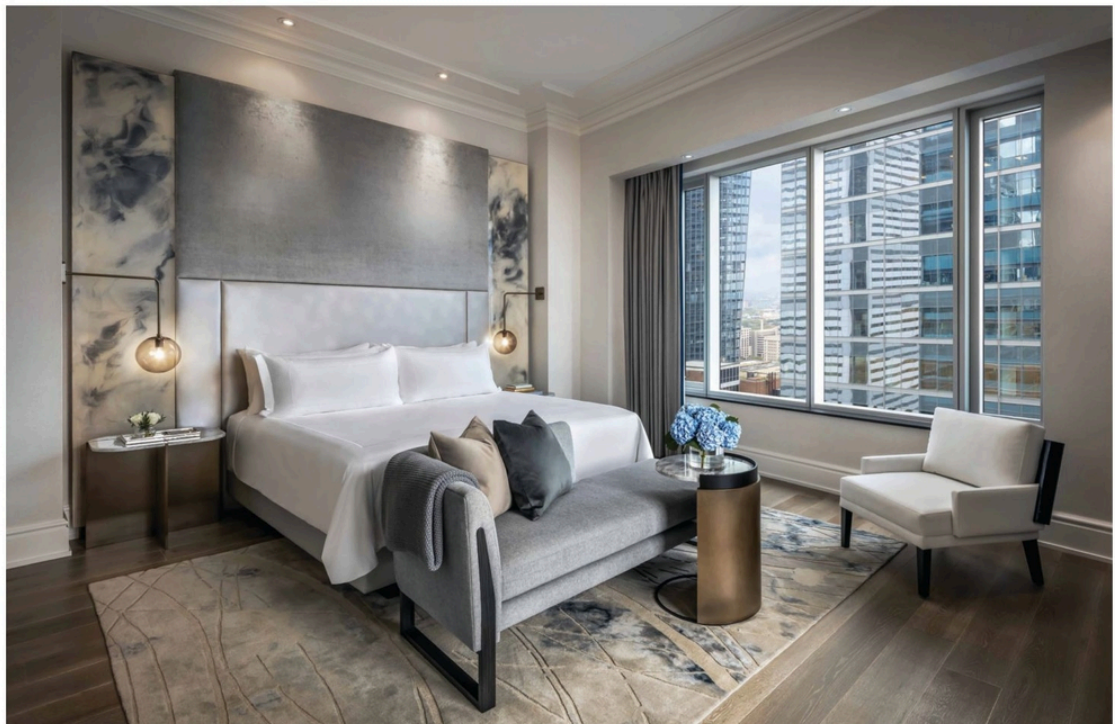


contract

FEATURE



Chapi Chapo Design partners are Tatiana Sheveleva, Loris Ognibene, and Boris Mathias (opposite, bottom). The Caroline Astor suite (two this page) at the St. Regis Hotel in Toronto was inspired by the reflection and contrasts of Lake Ontario. The St. Regis hotel in San Francisco (opposite) features metallic wallcoverings and artwork in the form of custom 3D computer graphics applications by Christo Saba.



Chapi Chapo Design

Locations Toronto/New York/Santiago, Chile
Founded 2011

Chapi Chapo Design was formed in 2011 by three European designers who had worked together in Toronto: Boris Mathias, Alienor Guilhem (who left the firm in 2019), and Tatiana Sheveleva; later they were joined by Loris Ognibene. Named after a 1970s French cartoon show, the multidisciplinary design firm has worked with major hospitality industry brands such as Marriott, Hyatt, Intercontinental, Hilton, and Four Seasons around the globe.

“Working closely with local and international artisans, Chapi Chapo Design is known for developing distinctive expressions of each project’s location, cultural, and historical identity,” said the designers in a collective statement. “By working with local and global artisans, we can promote innovative craftsmanship. Chapi Chapo Design derives its energy and creativity from an experienced, international group of interior designers, architects, graphic designers, and industrial designers.”

Chapi Chapo completed the redesign of the San Francisco St. Regis Hotel’s 260 guest rooms, drawing inspiration from the city’s cultural and historical identity as well as the vision of John Jacob Astor, who founded the brand in New York in 1904. The ultra-luxe guest rooms and suites were personalized with illuminated custom headboards upholstered with picoted leather paneling, layered smoked glass desks, metallic wallcoverings, and artwork in the form of custom 3D computer graphics applications by Christo Saba. In Toronto, the firm renovated the St. Regis Hotel’s 258 guest rooms, including 124 luxury suites and two specialty suites. The designers looked to the reflection and contrasts of Lake Ontario and the elements of water, frost, and snow in their selection of materials: from the circles shaped on the carpets to the stone of the fireplaces or the headboards in the bedrooms.

“We may have more choices than ever before, but that only means architects, designers, and others working in hospitality ought to focus on how they can use design to set themselves apart without forgetting our compulsion for human connection,” according to the design team. Now, more than ever, we are all beginning to see the value in that simple truth.



contract

FEATURE

By Belinda Lanks

Material



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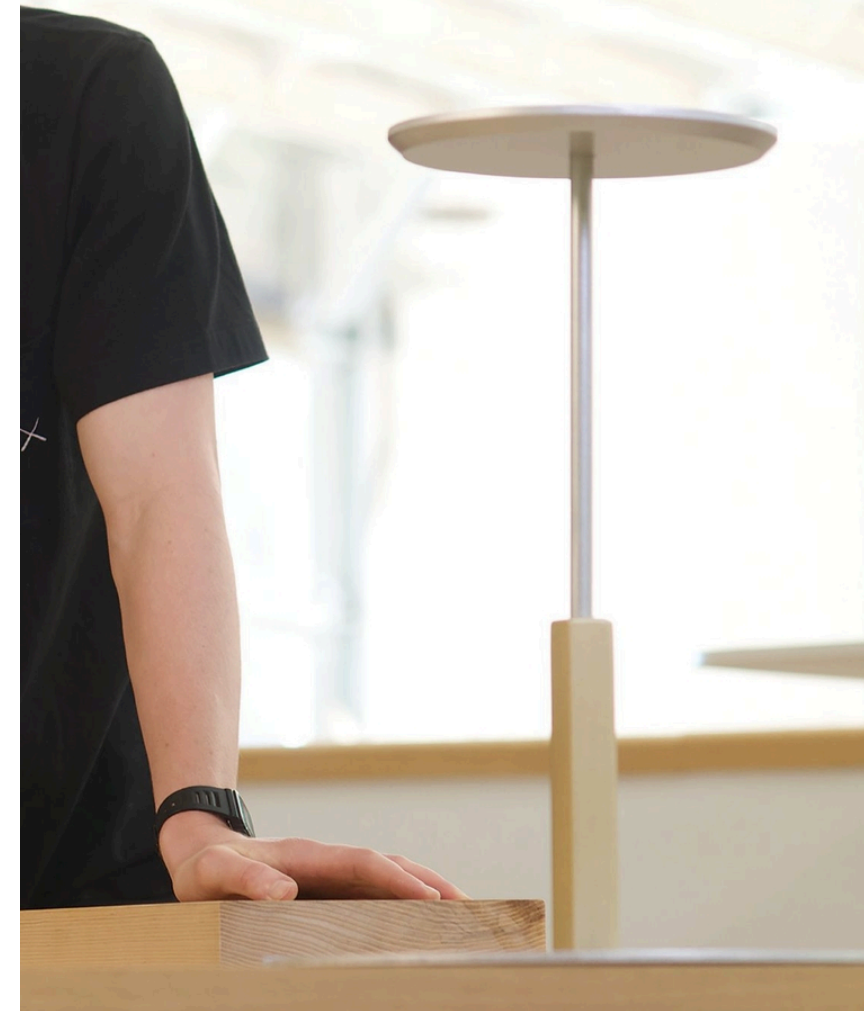
sensitivity

A Q&A with Claudia Surrage and Christian Cowper, the up-and-coming British designers who recently imagined a table collection for Bernhardt Design

If you're looking to curate an interior with an effortlessly eclectic feel, look no further than the Mix Collection of occasional tables by young British designers Claudia Surrage and Christian Cowper, of the U.K.-based Phat studio, for Bernhardt Design. Forming 121 variations, each of the seven different models, launching in May, works with the others while being memorable in its own right for a unique combination of materials, including everything from stainless steel and brass to quartz and wood.

Jerry Helling, the president and creative director of Bernhardt Design well-known for spotting up-and-coming talent, recruited the 22-year-old protégés after seeing their Gang Bench, a playful family of chunky wood seating. "When Jerry first saw Bench Gang," Cowper recalls, "he said he could easily relate to it and instantly understood and liked it." For Mix, Helling asked the pair to channel their penchant for exploring various densities into a range of styles, from simple and architectural to organic and sculptural.

Here, Cowper and Surrage take us behind the scenes of their first major collection.



FEATURE



“drawing from *all over* the DESIGN *spectrum*...”

How did you end up working with Bernhardt Design?

Cowper: We were first introduced to Jerry through email. Jerry saw an image online somewhere of a project of ours called Gang Bench that we shared at IMM Cologne as part of the Pure Talents contest in January of last year. We didn't see his email for ages because it went straight to our spam folder. Luckily, we did eventually see it, because it might have been lost forever.

Then how did the conversation evolve?

Surragé: He proposed the idea of making a mix of tables based on density—thick and thin. They're all different, but they all have something that brings them together in kind of a weird, patchwork way.

Was there any interior-design trend that Jerry was trying to hit on, or a problem he wanted to solve through this collection?

Cowper: On the trend side of things, we met him at the Hotel Café Royal in London, and we sort of walked around the hotel lobby looking at the kind of furniture they had in there, because hotels like that are the types of clients that Bernhardt caters for. On the trend side, they had mini collections of furniture, so there would be three different tables.

Surragé: It's more like they're curated, rather than a family of the same tables.

So tell me how they're unified more like a modern family, and what distinguishes each from the others?

Cowper: Jerry said that he wanted one that was Scandinavian-style, one that was very dense and solid, and others that were very lightweight. He was drawing from all over the design spectrum—something that was more organic to something that was more architectural.

Could you take me through the thinking behind one of the tables?

Cowper: We just got renders of each one yesterday. We'll start with the Bassa table. It has a very lightweight, traditional-looking base, and then the top is dished, so it's not flat—it's like a big dish and then flat across the top.

Surragé: It's a detail that you wouldn't necessarily notice from above, but when you see it, it gives a very uplifting feeling because the edges are so thin.

Cowper: This was our sort of Scandinavian concept. This is available with a wooden top and also a spun metal top, which looks really cool. We're really exploring how the design, mixed with manufacturing process, mixed with material could really make something all come together in one design, which looks really quite dynamic.

Surragé: I don't think Bernhardt had ever spun anything this large before.

Cowper: So this is a new discovery for both them and us.

Surragé: That's one that we're really proud of.

Changing out the type of material from wood to metal really alters the table's sensibility.

Cowper: Yeah, and I think it has an honesty to it, because the pattern on the metal from the spinning process is not adding a finish to it to make it cool; it looks the way it is because of its manufacturing process. When you see it, you can kind of connect to how it's made.

Speaking of the production process, were there any hiccups—any problems that you needed to solve—along the way?

Surragé: With our table called the Colvid. It originally started off square, but the legs came diagonally across it, making it look like the corners were levitating, which sounded too good to be true, and it was.

Cowper: It functioned well as a table, but it really couldn't take a lot of weight. Two corners were really strong, but if you sat on one of the overhangs, it would probably bend a bit. It did look cool, but it wouldn't stand up to the sort of toll of the market it's going to go into. The final product is round and still has the optical illusion that we were going for.

Coming out of this process, what did you learn? What was a big takeaway for you?

Surragé: The speed of the project is something we hadn't experienced before. We've spent half a year on a project—designing and making the prototype and sourcing all the materials, whereas this sort of takes all of that out of our hands. And the best person has the best job.

Cowper: Yeah, Jerry has a talent for seeing who's the best at doing each different job. You constantly feel like you're working with somebody who knows everything about each aspect of the project.

How long was the project from start to finish?

Surragé: About a month.

If you were to work for Bernhardt Design again, is there anything that you'd like to design for Jerry?

Cowper: I think we're pretty open to designing anything.

Surragé: I mean, we've designed watering cans before. We've designed cutlery. It really doesn't matter to us. We just really enjoy creating.

contract

FEATURE

soft contract

By Lauren Volker

These design companies bring an innovative spirit to contract design and push the boundaries of commercial spaces, offering furnishing solutions that best translate today's approach to living and working.



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contractdesign.com

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Scandinavian Spaces

Austin, Texas–based Scandinavian Spaces functions as a direct channel between leading Swedish manufacturers and U.S. designers and dealers, offering furniture and accessories focused on ergonomics and sustainability for the modern workplace.

The company, which operates showrooms in New York and Chicago, has seen steady growth year-to-year since its founding in 2016 and continues to grow its representation across the United States, expanding its team to 46 states in 2019. “We’ve also seen exciting growth in our collection with the addition of two new brands to the Scandinavian Spaces portfolio: TreCe and Karl Andersson & Söner,” says Thomas Jonsson, president of sales and marketing.

The company’s latest designs include Saga, a decorative cork sound diffuser inspired by the Swedish architectural style known as “stave,” and Combo, a table-and-stool combination that is ideal for public spaces. Another new addition, Rocca, is a playful stool that encourages movement and conversation designed by a student who won partner brand Materia’s Newcomer Award. “Overall, these new products offer a fresh perspective on modularity and movement, balancing aesthetics with functionality and ergonomics,” Jonsson says.

Alongside these new products, Scandinavian Spaces has also welcomed new additions to some of its popular product families including Bobby, a modular and magnetic seating system that extends the BOB family. “The near future that we see is a continuation of the trend towards functional spaces to work in that feel more relaxed than your traditional office, with more ‘resimercial’ work zones,” Jonsson says. “This aligns perfectly with our Scandinavian work ethos to prioritize workplace wellness.”



Scandinavian Spaces’ offerings include Rocca (opposite) by Materia, which encourages movement with a design that helps the stool to rock and keep the body active. Pixel (above) by Nordgröna is an acoustic wall art system made from natural, handpicked Scandinavian reindeer moss. Bobby (right) by Blå Station is a new modular and magnetic seating system, extending the company’s BOB family. An addition to the Motus stool line, the Motus (below) chair by Materia pairs well with the Vagabond Screen, a mobile table with an integrated screen that is perfect for “huddle space” meetings.



contract

FEATURE



The latest addition from Poppin's sub-brand PoppinPod, the Om Collection features breakthrough rolling technology that allows users to move it anywhere in the office with ease. The flexible solution is delivered fully assembled with qualifying customers receiving the product within 10 days via Poppin's free Rolling Install service.

Poppin

Poppin, which began as a vertically integrated office supply business—designing, manufacturing, and distributing everything from pens and notebooks to staplers and letter trays—today offers a complete collection of office furniture and supplies designed to provide the simplest solutions for furnishing workplaces.

Last June, that company ethos manifested itself in the sub-brand PoppinPod, Poppin's take on the office phone booth. "We've seen an enormous amount of interest in our PoppinPod Kolo Collection and are excited to introduce our next collection of PoppinPods," says Meredith Zenkel, vice president of marketing and communications.

The latest, the PoppinPod Om Collection, is a more affordable option, made with flexibility and futureproofing in mind. "The breakthrough rolling technology of the PoppinPod Om Collection means it can be moved anywhere in your office with absolute ease," Zenkel says. The pod is delivered fully assembled with the company's free Rolling Install service, avoiding a disruptive installation.

Poppin believes in the ongoing need for privacy in the open office as well as the importance of flexible workspaces. "The future of design will be about enabling companies to easily accommodate different business activities and needs without business interruption," Zenkel says.



Loftwall's latest introductions include Parallel (top), which allows users to achieve privacy at the individual level throughout an office, and Pivot (bottom), which gives customers a chance to transform rooms as needed, and is easily stowed away when open space is required.



Loftwall

Founded in 2008, Dallas-based Loftwall manufactures modular room dividers and acoustical partitions designed to enhance workspaces through their function and ease of use. Working with designers to help them build solutions that solve challenges for their clients, the company also customizes many of its solutions to meet specific needs, marketing products to end users, furniture dealers, and the architecture and design community.

In the past year, Loftwall has seen great growth, expanding to all areas of flexible privacy, according to the company's director of marketing, Andrew Holmes. Its latest product introductions include Pivot and Parallel.

Parallel allows users to instill privacy at the individual level, while Pivot gives customers a chance to transform rooms, tucking it away when open space is needed. "Both are flexible solutions to privacy problems that customers have been begging us for," says Holmes. "We're excited to continue to push the limits of how we can deliver privacy to the masses—both on macro and micro levels," Holmes adds.

The company continues to be guided by its vision of the workplace and the complex challenges of open office design. "Privacy and flexibility can be delivered much more easily than in the past," Holmes says. "With designers' imaginations and our manufacturing ability, we're looking forward to the next decade of design!"

contract

FEATURE



Lapalma

The ADD system (opposite, top) combines the ADD, ADD T, and ADD S modular collections in a single furnishing philosophy. Consistent and versatile, the various elements complement one another, meeting the needs of a modern office. The PLUS sofa (opposite, bottom right) boasts a soft profile, a generous seat, and a simple linking system that allows users to rearrange and redefine shapes with ease. The SEELA family of chairs (below and opposite, bottom left) features a polypropylene or upholstered shell with an integrated seamless seat-pad—offered in polypropylene, wood, or fabric—that is easily removable and replaceable.

Founded in 1980 by Dario and Romano Marcato, Lapalma is based in Cadoneghe, Padua, Italy. The company designs furniture for the contract and home sectors—from chairs to seating systems, stools, tables, cabinets, side tables, and accessories—producing and selling worldwide.

In its earlier years, Lapalma concentrated on single furnishing items and collections, but its approach has evolved, and today the company prides itself on offering products that are the result of ongoing research aimed at creating innovative solutions that interact with one another. “Balancing craftsmanship with industrial techniques, efficient production, and a focus on details, more than separate furnishing items, we produce furniture systems that connect people, with a strong attention to sustainability,” Dario says.

Recently, Lapalma has focused its attention on different design worlds—home, lounge, light office, and cafe—launching versatile products like the SEELA chair by Antti Kotilainen and the PLUS sofa by Francesco Rota, as well as systems that fit the needs of these specific worlds, like the ADD system.

The SEELA chair features a polypropylene shell that combines with an integrated seamless seat-pad offered in polypropylene, wood, or fabric; the PLUS modular sofa collection offers a simple linking system for easy rearranging and redefining; and the ADD system is a functional and versatile furnishing system for office spaces. The company also has expanded its outdoor offerings with new products that have been especially designed to fit this area, and revisions to existing products that guarantee maximum resistance to weather conditions.

In addition to new introductions, Lapalma is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its LEM stool, boasting a minimalistic design that offers a balanced elegance that transcends trends. “We are thinking about some special ways to honor it,” Romano says.



contract

FEATURE



Derlot Group

The Caterpillar system (below) segments come together to form a continuous undulating sofa offering the flexibility of tight radii, straight seating, and ottomans. The bold Biggie club chair (opposite, top left) offers intimate and relaxed moments in a shape designed to soften and enhance living and commercial spaces. Yeti (opposite, top right) is defined by its round edges and three-legged form. It comes in two different sizes and is available in solid American oak and walnut finishes.

Founded in 2008, Brisbane, Australia-based Derlot Group offers modular, adaptable, and versatile furniture solutions for contract, education, and hospitality environments through its two brands: Derlot Editions and Les Basic. The company prides itself on authentic design that focuses on locally made products and a shared commitment to innovation, and these two brands are positioned to service an increasingly conscious, global-thinking industry.

Three of Derlot's newest collections—Caterpillar, an undulating sofa system; Biggie, a minimal, modern club chair; and Yeti, a standout three-legged table with defining round edges—are designed for agile and active environments, defined by a level of modularity and flexibility that has come to be a part of the company's signature.

The company takes these ideals one step further by working with clients to customize collections to their needs. "Over the years we have partnered with architectural offices and professionals in the design community to develop and innovate furniture collections," says Alexander Lotersztain, director and chief designer. "These situations have provided designers and clients with the creative freedom to really push boundaries, customize, and reimagine what is expected from the furniture they are purchasing."

As a result of these client and designer relationships, nearly half of the products the company sells each year are specially made. "Offering customized solutions to standard collections ensures that the needs of end users are not only met but exceeded," Lotersztain says. "The future is dynamic and collaborative. There is a growing need for customized solutions and responsible design that thinks globally and acts locally."



contract

FEATURE

A WORLD OF DESIGN

By Sheila Kim

COVID-19 may have disrupted the architecture and design industry's preeminent international shows—such as ICFF, HD Expo, and Salone del Mobile—but it takes more than a virus to stop the design community's creative minds from conjuring up unique, fresh, and innovative products. Without further ado, we present some of the global highlights you would have encountered at the most prominent fairs.



Argentina

1. MATRIZdesign: Suca Table

Argentinian architect Viviana Melamed is the creative director behind this design studio, which produces high-quality furniture and lighting tailored to hospitality and residential interiors and exteriors. One of the newer designs, Suca is a sleek table with a tripod of skinny powder-coated steel legs supporting a round MDF top specially treated, painted, and lacquered. Varied side- and coffee-table heights are offered. matrizdesign.com

Belgium

2. Royal Botania: Exes Chairs + Conix Table

This Belgian company—known for refined yet functional outdoor furniture and lighting—gets literal in the Exes chair and Conix table. The former is defined by powder-coated aluminum X's that form the chair's legs, with teak armrests and seat-and-back upholstery. The latter features a conical base and round or oblong top in concrete.

royalbotania.com

Brazil

3. Studio Sérgio J. Matos: Chita Swing

Matos puts a contemporary spin on Brazilian traditional floral fabrics—otherwise known as chita fabric—by fashioning nautical rope into a large-scale abstract flower pattern. This, in turn, forms the shell of a cocoonlike swing. An inner aluminum structure provides stability and helps hold the shape.

sergiojmatos.com.br

PHOTOGRAPHY: COPYRIGHT LAFUMA MOBILIER—PIERRECK VERNY (TOP RIGHT)

Canada

4. Larose Guyon: Coco Lighting

Inspired by the fashionable Gabrielle “Coco” Chanel, this design studio just outside of Montreal has created unique lighting fixtures that evoke strings of pearls. Handblown-glass globes stand in for the “pearls” and are strung in various configurations. A dangling movable counterweight adapts the luminaire to different settings.

laroseguyon.com

5. Molo Design Cloud Mast Lamp

This paper cloud lamp and sculptural mechanical mobile, designed by Stephanie Forsythe and Todd MacAllen in Vancouver, balances earth and air. The mast supports a luminous canopy of clouds, and as air currents shift, the clouds rise and fall like ships floating on gentle seas. When illuminated, LEDs cast a soft glow through the textile honeycomb shades of the paper cloud lamp. As a floor-supported luminary, cloud mast is ideal for temporary installations or within spaces where electrical wiring might disrupt the ceiling.

molodesign.com



France

6. Lafuma Mobilier: Sphinx Chair

Certified as a product manufactured in France, this outdoor lounge chair is a streamlined and refined butterfly chair with a collapsible white kaolin-tube structure. Its fitted cushion seating is available in three soft, summer-evoking hues.

lafuma-mobilier.com

7. THG Paris: Bambou Faucet

This esteemed French brand has collaborated on 13 bath collections over the span of 20 years, and one such series is Bambou. Satin-finished, clear crystal handles carved with bamboo motifs are paired with an angular spout for sink faucets and tub fillers. Three crystal colors and 28 metal finishes are offered.

thg-paris.com

FEATURE



8



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Germany

8. Midgard: K831 Pendant

Based on a 1931 Bauhaus-influenced design in Midgard's archives, the pendant sports a rotatable and tiltable reflector, allowing the end user to direct the light. The shade is available in steel, aluminum, or copper in various finishes, while the textile-covered cable comes in five colors.

midgard.com

Italy

9. Lapalma: Aaron Stool

Quirky, cool, and functional, Aaron is a twofer combining an upholstered stool, available in two heights, with a swivel tablet that branches out from the stool's main tubular-metal structure. The taller version offers a footrest.

lapalma.it

Japan

10. Karimoku Case Study: Kinuta Table

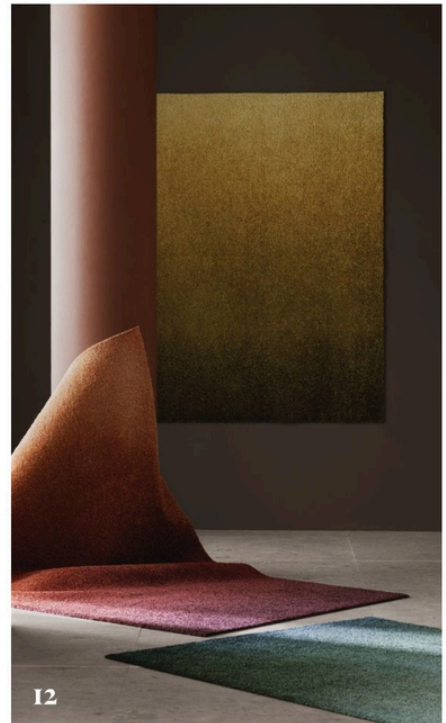
Part of the larger Kinuta collection, which includes seating, the tables are offered in five designs that highlight symmetry, construction, and clean lines. The pieces are made with pure or smoked oak wood and, depending on the model, oak, marble, or tinted-glass tops.

karimoku-casestudy.com

PHOTOGRAPHY: RAGNAR OMARSSON, STYLING BY KIRSTEN VESDAL (TOP RIGHT)



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13

Norway

11. Fram Oslo: Trøndelag Bunad

Referencing traditional folk costumes from the Trøndelag region of Norway, this throw blanket replicates the bunad's zigzag motifs. The fringed product is composed of 100 percent wool. Ten percent of the brand's profits go to UNICEF, to boot.

[frameslo.com](https://www.frameslo.com)

12. Heymat: Dis Collection

The latest mats from this Norwegian company sport a handsome color gradient in three palettes: moss to yellow, dark blue to pale green, and dark rust to pale orange. All are eco-friendly with a pile composed of 50 percent recycled material and rubber composed of another 30 percent. Each is available in three sizes.

[heyamat.no](https://www.heyamat.no)

13. NCP x Snøhetta: S-1500 Chair

Architecture and multidisciplinary design firm Snøhetta has partnered with Nordic Comfort Products (NCP) to develop this minimalist chair of swirling saturated color while closing the loop. Its subframe of recycled steel supports the main body, a shell constructed with 100 percent recycled plastic sourced from the local fishing industry. Available in eight colorways.

[ncp.no](https://www.ncp.no)

contract

FEATURE



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Portugal

14. Ginger & Jagger: Canyon Side Table

A visual melding of smooth and rough, this table presents shape and texture that recall the elements behind canyon formation—wind and water—and canyon rocks themselves. Composed of porous travertine, it's carved at the core with a swooshing C shape that has been hand-gilded with gold leaf.

gingerandjagger.com

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Spain

15. Kettal: VDL Pavilion

The Spanish manufacturer has replicated the modernist home and office of legendary architect Richard Neutra and his architect son, Dion Neutra, to create freestanding outdoor structures with their clean aesthetic predominated by horizontal lines. The pavilion concept is an open-air structure comprising a roof-covered living room with integrated downlights and shading system and an uncovered trellis.

kettal.com

contractdesign.com

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Switzerland

16. Laufen: Val Washbasin

Ever-shrinking homes call for compact solutions such as Val. Made of the proprietary durable SaphirKeramik, the handwashing sinks occupy smaller footprints but don't compromise bowl size thanks to superthin walls. Val is wall-mounted, comes in various configurations, and features a deeper faucet-side ledge to accommodate toiletries. Most also have discreet integrated towel bars.

us.laufen.com



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Ukraine

17. Faina Design: Domna Armchair

Founded by Ukrainian architect Victoria Yakusha, Faina presents this playfully marshmallow-like chair. Its voluptuous silhouette is based on ancient ceramic sculptures depicting the female form, and its curves and padding provide the utmost comfort. (In Ukraine, "Domna" can mean "priestess" or "goddess of welfare.") The chair is upholstered in a wide range of colors over foam-rubber cushioning.

faina.design

contract

FEATURE

United Kingdom

Although the spring design fairs have been called off and the London Design Festival, held in September, still hangs in the balance, the U.K. design scene marches on. The British European Design Group, which promotes the design works of its local denizens to the rest of the world, gives us a taste of what's brewing.

**18. Adriana Homewares: Howardian Fabric Range**

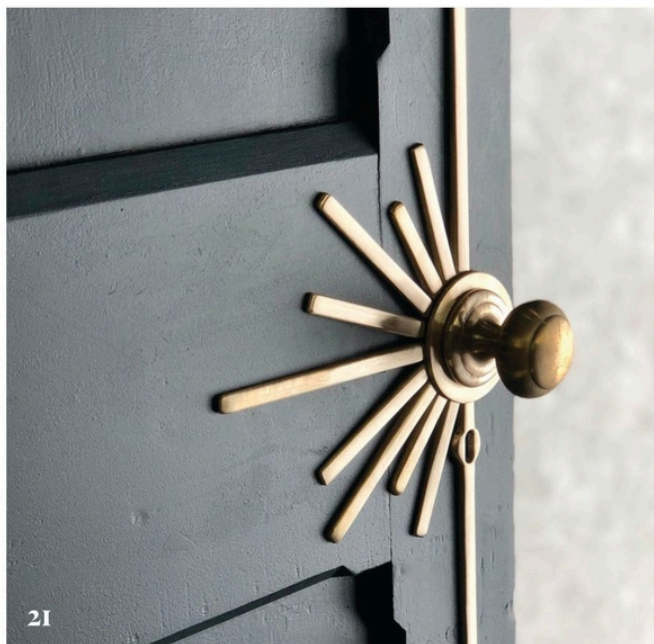
Founder Adriana Gentile looked to her home county of Yorkshire and its scenic Howardian Hills for the soft pastel palette in this line of home textiles and accessories. The range includes throws, lampshades, and cushions, but also standalone fabric by the meter.

adrianahomewares.com

**19. Coldharbour Lights: The Bertie Chandelier**

This whimsical luminaire presents two tiers of goose and chicken feathers sourced from poultry farms and dyed in a variety of dramatic, neutral, or soft colors. Each chandelier is unique, as it's custom-colored and made to order.

coldharbourlights.com



20. Divine Savages: DS Metallic Wallpaper Collection

Cranes and palms and Art Deco motifs inspired the patterns in these elegant wallpapers, with the patterns printed in gold or copper metallics that add a touch of luxury and subtle shimmer.

divinesavages.com

21. Philip Watts Design: Sunburst Lever Handle

This cast-brass door hardware features a Deco-style sunburst pattern with an escutcheon plate of linear rays radiating from the handle. It's finished with a semi-aged patina.

philipwattsdesign.com



22. Shweta Mistry: Digitally Printed Textiles

This line of fabrics—made from 100 percent recycled plastic bottles—and wallpapers depicts trees, foliage, and flora in a variety of colorways.

shwetamistry.com

23. Tom Faulkner: Papillon Collection

Wispy, deeply saturated forms take inspiration from boulders of Joshua Tree National Park in the U.S. as well as caterpillars and butterflies in occasional and dining tables, a rolling trolley, and a folding screen. The cart and tables are topped with dichroic glass.

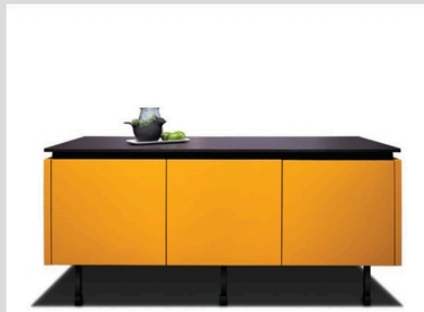
tomfaulkner.co.uk

contract

MATRIX

Kitchen & Bath

The newest offerings for kitchen and bath put style front and center in these crucial spaces. Sanded and glossy finishes provide contrast on faucets and handles. Terrazzo and quartz bring durability and sophistication to showers and basins. Bathroom furniture gets the luxe treatment, with walnut, limestone, and brass transforming vanities and cabinets into showpieces.



Brown Jordan Outdoor Kitchens: Elements by Tecno Modular Kitchen Line

brownjordanoutdoorkitchens.com

This modular collection blurs the line between cabinetry and furniture, with a frameless design featuring nested drawers and integrated handles.



Lacava: Aqua Towel Bar

lacava.com

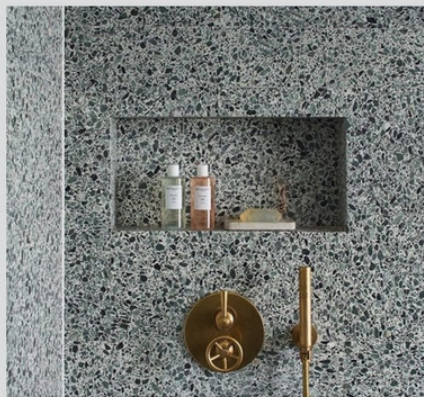
This towel bar from Lacava fits under sinks of all shapes and sizes, and it not only saves space but also puts towels within easy reach. Available in matte, brushed, and polished finish options.



Delta Faucet: Emmeline Kitchen Collection

deltafaucet.com

A blend of shapes, this new collection balances traditional and modern design. With a distinctive diamond-shaped spout, the pull-down faucet is the centerpiece that brings flair and function to kitchens.



Naturali Stone: Nebbia Garda Terrazzo

naturalistone.com

This Italian terrazzo features marble and granite aggregate in black and gray clustered on a white ground to bring a textural look to the shower. Available in a range of tile and slab sizes.



Hastings Tile & Bath: Chelsea Tub

hastingstilebath.com

This stylish freestanding tub features wide, open dimensions and a slightly high back for added comfort while bathing. Available in two sizes and four finishes that will enhance any bathroom.



Watermark Designs: Brut Collection

watermark-designs.com

Two different polishing processes were used to create this collection, designed by O&G Studio. Available in 24 different finishes, the Brut's spout exterior is smooth and polished, but the underside is rough-hewn.



The Furniture Guild: Avalon Vanity

furnitureguild.com

Made to order by skilled craftsmen, this piece now has a thin quarter-inch Campaign inlay, which adds a touch of glamour. Paired with a metal base, the Avalon becomes a freestanding vanity.



Baldwin Hardware: Satin Black Finish Hardware

baldwinhardware.com

This Satin Black finish features a solid matte black over sanded brass. When paired with more traditional designs, it creates a bold statement and complements all types of kitchens or bathrooms.



Elkay: Quartz Luxe Farmhouse Sink with Workstation
elkay.com

This sink accommodates a custom-size wood cutting board to maximize counter space. The 10-inch-tall apron provides a traditional farmhouse look that complements classic hardware and tile in the kitchen.



Franz Viegner: Seven Faucet
franzviegner.com

Made of machined bar stock brass, the Seven faucet features curvilinear contours meeting parallel planes. A truly streamlined piece, it has an ultrathin spout that is only seven millimeters thick.



Devon&Devon: Kalos Basin
devon-devon.com

Designed by Italian architect Massimo Iosa Ghini, this washbasin and mirror has sinuous lines reminiscent of flower petals. The basin body is made entirely of White Tec, which provides unparalleled durability.



Hamilton Sinkler: Soho Pulls
hamiltonsinkler.com

From the Sculpted Series made in collaboration with artist Mig Perkins, these solid brass pulls were made using a sand-casting technique. Polishing by hand, buffing, and patinating ensures that each finish is unique.



Stone Forest: Double Basin Ventus Bath Sinks
stoneforest.com

These double-basin integral sinks are combined with ample storage options for the master bath. Shown here with limestone sinks, and drawer units in cement gray, with an aged brass stand.



Brizo: Kintsu Widespread Faucet
brizo.com

With an interplay of Scandinavian and Japanese influences, this faucet combines soft contours and broken geometries for a truly unique bath faucet. Shown here in the new Brilliance Black Onyx finish.



Vanico Maronyx: OBE Collection
vanico-maronyx.com

From the CUBIK series, this furniture will complement a range of bathroom styles. Medicine cabinets, drawers, and sink bases were designed to maximize space. Available with a custom color development option.



Infinity Drain: Site Sizable Low-Profile Linear Drain
infinitydrain.com

This drain's lower profile helps to minimize the floor height needed to achieve a curbless entry. The PVC channel option was designed to ensure that it stays firmly positioned in the mortar bed floor.



Laufen: Vanity Washbasin
laufen.com

Designed by Marcel Wanders, this washbasin made of SaphirKeramik has a timeless elegance. It is shown here with a matching mirror with LED ambient light, toothbrush holder, and soap dish.

contract

MATRIX

Innovative Materials

These materials bring character to every surface from walls to countertops. Weathered wood and stone looks add a rustic touch, while holographic designs and metallics bring subtle shine to digital prints. Sophisticated florals and geometrics abound, while the color palettes reflect the hues found in natural elements.



Way Cooler x Concrete Collaborative: Field Formations Tiles
concrete-collaborative.com

Concrete Collaborative partnered with Cooler Gallery to produce these tiles of tinted encaustic concrete made by a number of artists. Crafted by hand, they feature unidirectional, multidirectional, or randomized patterns.



Nemo Tile + Stone: GLOW Collection
nemotile.com

These iridescent ceramic wall tiles are finished in pastel shades, including a holograph option that contains a perfect mixture of each color. Available matte or glossy, they are ideal in commercial spaces.



Juju Papers: Natural Gifts Wallpaper

jujupapers.com

Designed by Avery Thatcher, this wallpaper features a hand-guided, imperfectly framed grid design that brings a touch of whimsy to any room. Three colorways are available in a range of semiopaque hues.



Northern Wide Plank: Dover Flooring

northernwideplank.com

From the Wixom collection, Northern Wide Plank presents this oak wide-plank flooring, designed and crafted in Europe. The planed surface adds gentle texture to the refined grain and washed color.



Mazy Path: Community Garden Collection

mazypath.com

In an exploration of the world of plants and their stories, Alexis Audette introduces her first collection. Digitally printed on papers coated with clay, these designs capture the subtle tonalities and textures of linocuts.



Superflower Studio: Florescence Collection

superflowerstudio.com

Superflower Studio founders Andrew Zuckerman and Nicole Bergen introduce their inaugural collection. Edo-period ikebana and 19th-century European patterns inspired these wallpapers that feature lush floral designs.



Astek: Ephemeral Collection

astek.com

This new collection of wallcoverings from Astek captures the beauty of the process of making art. These digitally-printed murals explore color and texture, simulating the look of paint layered on canvas.



Scandecor Rugs: Lanciano Rug

scandecorugs.com

Woven from New Zealand wool and durable paper yarn, this rug from Scandecor is functional and fashionable. Six colors and custom sizes are available, shown here in the Tuscan Linen shade.



Flavor Paper: Los Angeles Toile
flavorpaper.com

Flavor Paper's take on a traditional French toile, this wallpaper pays homage to the City of Angels. It features designs of the freeways and landmarks in Los Angeles, available in five colorways.



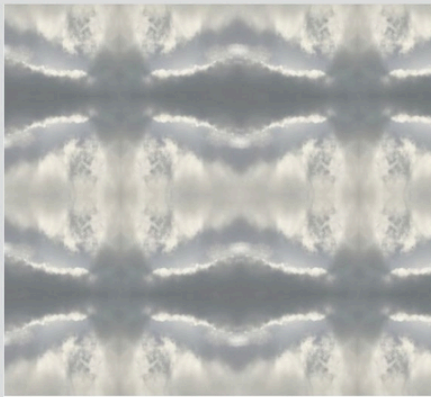
Block Shop Textiles: Big Squiggle Upholstery Fabric
blockshoptextiles.com

From the studio's first collection of upholstery fabric, this Irish linen features subtle white dotting in a wave pattern. The golden-brown ocher ground pairs perfectly with cream, pink, and brown tones.



Warp & Weft: Dawn Rug Series
warpandweft.com

From the Light & Shadow collection designed by Deborah Berke Partners, the Dawn series abstracts light, shadows, and patterns. Each rug boasts graphic compositions of form and color, enriched with texture.



Bijou Coverings: Benedict Hadley x Bijou Collection
bijoucoverings.com

Designed by filmmaker and artist Benedict Hadley, these wallcoverings add an energetic infusion of color and light to all types of interiors. Five unique designs are available, with Sterling Nimbus shown here.



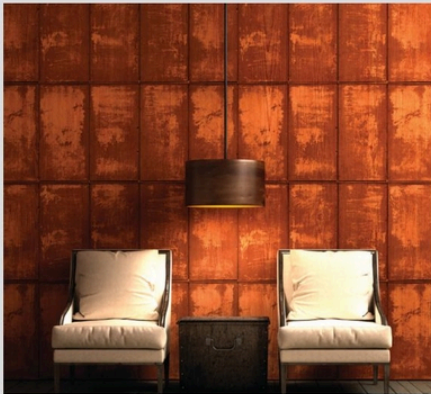
Nasiri Carpets: Santiago Rug
nasiricarpets.com

This flat-weave rug is made of 100% wool, with a gray ground and multicolor accents. Custom sizes and colors are available to fit in large or small rooms, and to complement various decor styles.



Pampa: Amila Rug
pampa.com.au

Made of Argentinian wool, this rug was handwoven by skilled weavers from the Monte region. Flowers, insects, and other life-forms in the area serve as color inspiration, like the mustard shade shown here.



B+N Industries: Raw Collection
bnind.com

This collection captures the look of weathered industrial textures and vintage construction materials, with images and graphics infused into wood veneer. Shown here is exterior steel cladding.



Smith & Fong Co.: Lava Stone Durapalm Flooring
durapalm.com

One of six new Durapalm colors introduced this year, Lava Stone captures the interplay between earth and water. This palm-wood flooring reflects the subtle tones and textures found in weathered stone.



Marc Phillips Rugs: Sierra Rug Collection
marcphillipsrugs.com

With iconic terrains and landscapes as inspiration, this rug collection features geometric peaks and abstract linear designs that form gridlike patterns. Varying pile heights create multidimensional texture, while tonal colors soothe.

contract

MATRIX

Cross Currents

The newest furniture, lighting, and accessories designed for commercial spaces are just as suitable for the home, while traditional housewares can enliven hospitality spaces. The rules no longer apply, and pieces designed for different sectors can be paired to create inviting environments.



Stillfried Wien: Roll Bench
stillfried.com

From the Roll collection by Studio Verena Hennig for AKTTEM, this bench offers comfort and function that can be utilized in any space. A matching chair and stool are available.



Blå Station: Park + Seating Collection
blastation.com

Designed by Italian studio CMP, this collection includes a two-seater, a three-seater, and an individual chair. All of the pieces are easily connected with an interlinking table to create any desired configuration.



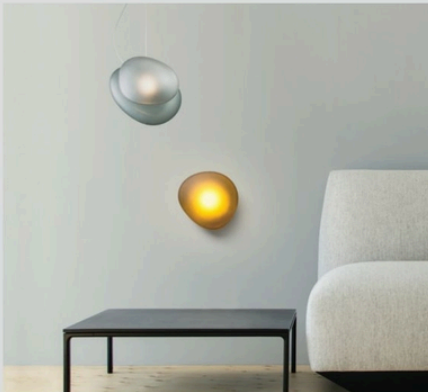
CAM Design Co.: 001 Console
chrismiano.com

With traditional Japanese wood joinery as inspiration, Christopher Miano of CAM Design Co. crafted this minimalist console. Shown here in Calacatta Gold and Verde Green marble, various stones are available.



Fernweh Woodworking: Oxbend Chair
fernwehwoodworking.com

Designed by Justin Nelson, this chair from the Oxbend collection is elegant in its simplicity. It incorporates subtle tubular curves and wedged-tenon leg joinery, and a matching stool and bench are available.



ANDlight: Pebble Light Series
andlight.ca

A celebration of the beautiful qualities of stones, these lights blend sculpture and translucency. Small and large glass forms are connected to one another with a machined aluminum LED holder and heat sink.



Fyrn: Nested Table Series
fyrn.com

These nesting tables come in four sizes and are each named for an American mountain peak or rock formation—Denali, Rainier, Shasta, and El Capitan. These versatile pieces can even double as stools or footrests.



Sisyphus: Stainless Steel Metal Coffee Table
sisyphus-industries.com

With a tempered glass top and an integral LED shade ring, this coffee table boasts colored light options. From logos to detailed algorithmic patterns, users can also choose designs for a unique look.



Cerno: Astrum Pendant
cernogroup.com

Light reflects off of the inside of the outer panels of this fixture and bounces off the inner panels to produce a halo washing effect. Matte black exterior, distressed brass, and glossy white shades are available.



Ethnicraft: Trifecta Charcoal Coffee Table
ethnicraft.com

Designed by Dawn Sweitzer, this table is made of black glass and finished with a brass rim. All three table sizes can be placed together or used separately to make a stunning design statement.



Lightmaker Studio: Edie Sconce
lightmakerstudio.com

This sconce by Lightmaker Studio explores the relationship between two similar forms in handblown glass, with subtle references to art deco design. A range of glass and finish options are available.



Model No.: 221 Chaise
model-no.com

Made of custom bioresin and wooden sides, the seat of this chaise can be tailored to a user's measurements, or preset sizes can be selected. A number of colors and wood options are available.



TON: Grand Slam Chair
ton.eu

Without visible joints, this chair has TON's trademark bent wooden rods and a gently curved plywood seat. It can be stacked vertically, ideal in smaller rooms where extra space is needed.



Isokon Plus: Shell Table
isokonplus.com

Originally designed by Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby in 2000 as a limited-edition table, the Shell Table has been reissued and is now in full production. A truly streamlined piece, it only has five components.



Fermob: Bebop Side Table
fermobusa.com

With a steel base and an aluminum top, this table has a stylish rounded form. Designed to withstand all-weather conditions, it is an ideal piece to use on a deck or patio.



TUUCI: Ocean Master Max Nautical Teak Umbrella
tuuci.com

With sailing details serving as inspiration, this umbrella brings a fresh look to the poolside or patio. The natural teak used throughout the hubs, ribs, and struts is paired with polished metal elements.



Koncept: Vertical Acoustic Panels
koncept.com

Designed to provide superior sound absorption, these acoustic panels complement a range of interiors. They can be mounted flat onto each pendant or installed upright along the suspending wires for endless combinations.

contract

MATRIX



HearthCabinet Ventless Fireplaces: Bedazzled Fireplace
hearthcabinet.com

This new stainless-steel fireplace is a truly dazzling showpiece, with custom mirrored glass mosaic tiles from Allison Eden Studios. With shine and style, this fireplace is ideal in hotel or restaurant spaces.



Isimar: Arena Collection
isimar.es

The Arena collection now includes a two-seater sofa, a chair, and a high table. The perforations in the frames simulate the undulations that sand leaves on the beaches of the Mediterranean.



Very Good & Proper: Oval Armchair
verygoodandproper.co.uk

Based on the original chair with a molded plywood frame, the Oval armchair has now been updated with a powder-coated steel tube frame. Available with a high or low back.



SkLO: Dew Sconce
sklo.com

This sconce features a diffuser composed of layers of glass applied while in a liquid state, giving it a distinct dripping appearance. Available with two glass finishes and two brass finishes.



Skylar Morgan: Inset Leather Desk
skylarmorganfurniture.com

Outfitted in oiled walnut and black belting leather, this desk has intricate joinery and mitered corners. The drawers are lined with felt and inset slightly to create a soft shadow line.



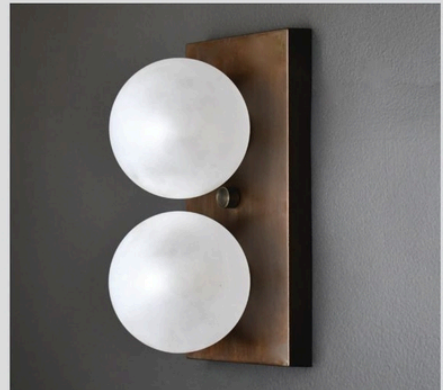
Terranova Designs Intl.: Original Artwork
eduardoterranova.com

Known for his reflective visuals, artist Eduardo Terranova presents Moonrise on the East River. Silver chromium plaster extruded on burlap, this piece brings luminosity and texture to commercial or residential interiors.



Zachary A. Design: Coronado Side Table
zacharyadesign.com

With the look of concrete but made of cast resin, this side table features a field of atmospheric landscapes spread across its surface. Sculptural and functional, this is a one-of-a-kind piece.



Blueprint Lighting: Duo Wall Sconce
blueprintlighting.com

With a simple form and clean lines that echo Bauhaus design, this sconce is suitable in residential and commercial environments. Customers can choose from six metal finishes and 36 enamel colors.



Pablo Designs: Sky Pendant
pablodesigns.com

This modular pendant is both an acoustic and a decorative solution for interiors. Felted disc reflectors have sound-dampening properties, while the shade features a two-sided polished aluminum LED flat panel light source.



Hollis+Morris: Catkin Table Lamp
hollisandmorris.com

This playful table lamp has a solid wood stem and a metal base, designed to complement a range of tabletops. The stems are available in solid oak, white oak, or brushed metal.



Miyazaki Chair Factory: Paperknife Chair
miyazakichair.com

In celebration of its 50th anniversary, Miyazaki Chair Factory introduces this limited-edition seating option. It features a wenge wood frame and a cushion of soft nubuck leather, in an ecru or almond color.



Kettal: Bela Floor Lamp
kettal.com

Designed by Doshi Levien, this versatile floor lamp can be used as an indoor or outdoor lighting option. Crafted of a synthetic material, the shade references traditional handwoven lanterns.



Katy Skelton: Lone Star Sconce
katyskelton.com

With a star-shaped brass fixture and an LED bulb, this sconce brings a bit of whimsy to rooms. The brass will attain a lovely patina as it ages.



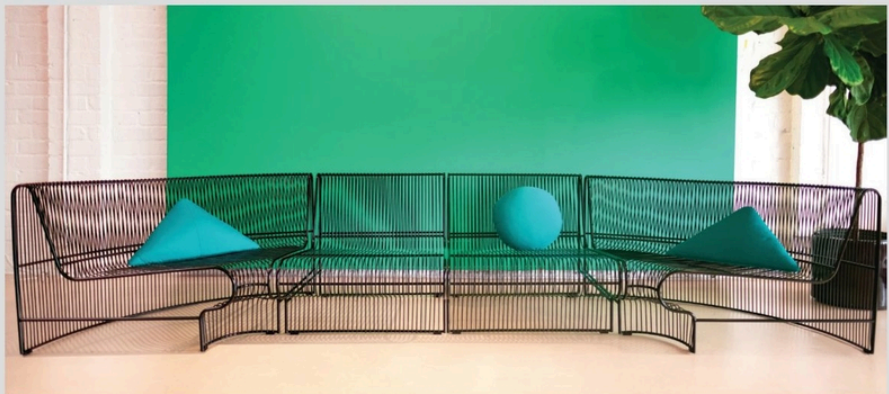
Marillights: Ambiguo Collection
marillights.com

These pendants and chandeliers play with asymmetrical elements to bring an artistic quality to each fixture. The shades are made from glass or aluminum, and different materials and finishes are available.



EmuAmericas: Como Collection
emuamericas.com

This collection of outdoor seating features steel wires fixed to the backrest frames in a decorative pattern. Special projection welding technology provides rust resistance and superior performance in all types of weather.



Bend Goods: Mod Sectional Sofa
bendgoods.com

Crafted of powder-coated steel, this sectional sofa has gentle curves for shape and comfort. Each piece can be easily mixed and matched to create configurations to suit a range of settings.

contract

MATRIX

Warm Welcome

The latest hospitality products bring the warmth of home to commercial spaces and outdoor settings. Furniture and fabrics have raised textures that beckon touch, while lighting casts a glow over modern interiors. Matte finishes and weathered detailing soften the look of metal and stone surfaces.



Bover: Teddy Lamp
bover.es

With a body crafted of white aluminum, this wall lamp is designed to complement a variety of interiors. The dome shade rotates 350 degrees, bringing targeted light to compact spaces.



Brentano: Olympia Fabric
brentanofabrics.com

The sinuous lines of Olympia are contained in a larger-scale honeycomb pattern. With an abrasion resistance of 100,000 double rubs, this fabric from Brentano blends durability and style.



Crossville: Jazz Age Collection
crossvilleinc.com

Inspired by the character of flooring found in the nightclubs of the 1920s and 1930s, these porcelain tiles echo traditional wood flooring. They have the look of marks and distressing that would have occurred over time.



Wolf-Gordon: Holding Pattern Wallcovering
wolfgordon.com

Designed by Ghislaine Viñas, this digitally printed wallcovering captures the idea of being stuck in a behavioral loop. The design features a series of shapes with shifting tones that are divided by linear elements.



Cosentino: Dekton Laurent
cosentino.com

Inspired by Port Laurent marble, this new Dekton color plays with different shades and nuances. The gold veining on a dark background brings a sophisticated look to kitchen and bath spaces.



Sandler Seating: Flower Chair
sandlerseating.com

Inspired by the petals of a flower, this ergonomic chair is available in two versions: a soft-touch urethane or a softly padded shell. It can be upholstered in a variety of fabric or leather.



Infinity Drain: Slot Linear Drain
infinitydrain.com

With a 3/8-inch drainage gap that virtually disappears into its surroundings, this drain also has an easily accessible clean-out tray that simplifies debris removal and servicing of the waste line.



Isimar: Colonial Armchair
isimar.es

This chair calls to mind the wicker furniture typically found in the Mediterranean. Crafted of galvanized wire for an updated look, this piece is suitable for indoor or outdoor use.



Mayer Fabrics: Molecule Fabric
mayerfabrics.com

From the Quantum collection, Molecule features a hexagon motif in a quilted construction. Available in metallic colors, this small- to medium-scale design is suitable for a wide range of seating styles.



Now Carpets: Palma Collection
nowcarpets.com

This collection features 12 rugs made of polypropylene that are designed to withstand high traffic indoors or out. They feature handwoven braids and bright, variegated colors reminiscent of nature and the sea.



Cambria: Portrush Quartz Surface
cambriausa.com

Portrush features a porcelain base with bold navy, gray, and black veins on its quartz surface. The veining is accompanied by fine-spun filaments and gleaming gold flakes that enhance kitchen countertops.



Milliken: Crio Collection
floors.milliken.com

Vibrant Brazilian street art serves as the inspiration for this carpet tile collection from Milliken, with bold brushstroke designs, etched-like detailing, and varying hues. Custom color options are also available.



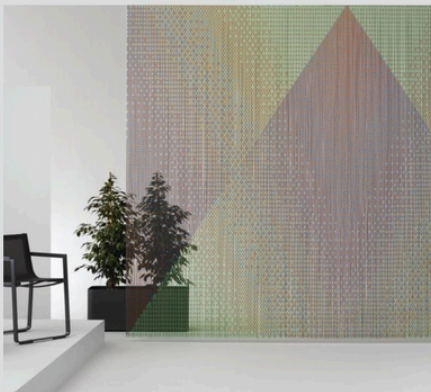
Kettal: Band Dining Chair
kettal.com

Designed by Patricia Urquiola, the body of this outdoor dining chair is made up of repetitive angular shapes. Available in aluminum or teakwood, and a range of fabric options.



Bernhardt Hospitality: Bernhardt Exteriors Line
bernhardthospitality.com

Bernhardt Hospitality enters the outdoor market with this new range of furniture. Crafted of materials like terrazzo, rattan, and woven wicker, each all-weather piece can be used indoors or out.



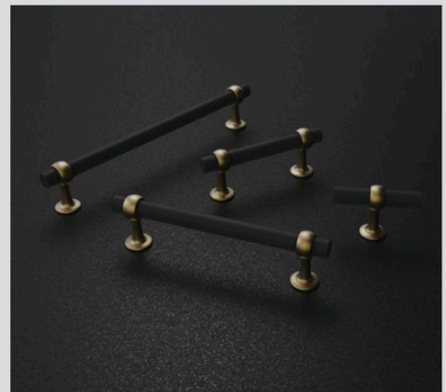
Kriskadecor: Gradient Collection
kriskadecor.us

Made of anodized aluminum links, these panels were inspired by the transitions that appear between two pure colors. The eight pieces in the collection can be used as room dividers or wallcoverings.



Janus et Cie: Rock Garden Chaise Lounge
janusetcie.com

This chaise lounge with arms embraces the qualities of a Japanese garden. With a teak frame and ample cushions for comfort, this piece is ideal for relaxing by the pool or on the patio.



Belwith-Keeler Décor Solutions: Ostia Collection
belwith-keeler.com

Inspired by architectural details spotted in a traditional English hotel, this collection adds subtle visual interest to any kitchen or bathroom. Shown here in matte black and brushed golden brass.

contract

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Durkan: Second Home Collection
durkan.com

This commercial-grade resilient LVT collection provides the scratch and stain resistance needed in high-traffic hospitality spaces. Planks in an array of 13 wood visuals call to mind the comforts of home.



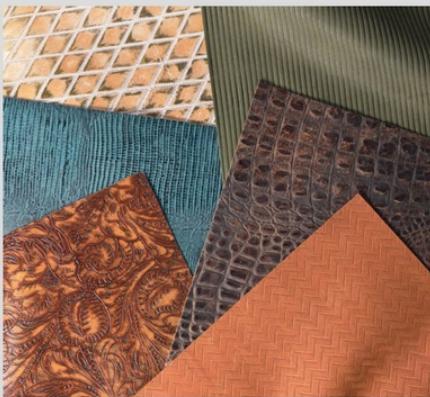
Hasegawa USA: Spinwood Shelf and Table
hasegawaladders.com

Crafted of thermally modified spruce wood, this combination shelf and table has a mechanism that allows it to transform in a matter of seconds. Casters under the base allow it to be easily moved.



EmuAmericas: Cactus Sculpture
emuamericas.com

A stylish alternative to live plants in dry climates, this sculpture's steel frame ensures exceptional outdoor performance. It is available in two different sizes and with two different accessory options.



Cortina Leathers: Estancia Collection
cortinaleathers.com

The Estancia collection is a celebration of craftsmanship and design. Each of the six patterns has unique colorations and textures, and all of the embossed leathers in the line are hand-finished.



Fermob: Surprising Teak Footrest
fermobusa.com

With a steel rod frame and teak slats, this footrest is the perfect complement to the armchairs in the Surprising Teak line. It provides added comfort and withstands all types of weather conditions.



Room & Board Business Interiors: Cato Chair
roomandboard.com

With channeled cushions, the Cato chair combines texture and an architectural look. Available with chrome or black legs and upholstery fabric options that are ideal in office and hospitality settings.



NanaWall: SL84 Folding Glass Wall
nanawall.com

The SL84 offers the ultimate in streamlined design, with a crisp frame profile, and an intersection of two folding panels that is only 99 millimeters. A patented thermal break provides superior energy efficiency.



Santa & Cole: Tekiō Pendant
santacole.com

This pendant is a blend of traditional and modern, with a handcrafted shade of Japanese washi paper and LED technology. Linear or circular shapes can be created by combining various modules.



TUUC: Equinox Cabana
tuuci.com

This modular cabana transforms any patio, poolside, or outdoor landscape into a personal retreat. Constructed to last for years, the various configurations are wind rated from 50 to 100+ miles per hour.



Newport Brass: Secant Faucet
newportbrass.com

Bringing an architectural flair to the bathroom, this wide-spreading faucet combines modern structure and geometric shapes. Square-cut posts rise to rectangular foundations and levers to control water flow and temperature.



Allegric Crystal: Tamburo Pendant
allegricrystal.com

Dimmable, high-power LEDs illuminate this pendant from the inside, highlighting the unique characteristics of the custom-shaped crystals. Matte black hardware evokes casual luxury that complements commercial interiors.



Kravet Contract: Heyward Textures Collection
kravet.com

These upholstery fabrics emulate the look and feel of linen, but with durability and stain resistance. A subtle chenille, slub, and modern classic weave are offered in an array of contemporary colors.



Mockett: Illuminated Pop-Up Power Dock
mockett.com

With two power outlets and a dual USB, this power dock puts convenient charging options within easy reach in the home or office. Available with a black or metallic silver cap and flange.



Effe: Touch & Steam System
effe.it

This state-of-the-art steam generator features unit preheating, color, and white light options. Users can control the quality and density of the steam, and it's easy to install in any shower.



Aceray: Dado Chair
aceray.com

This contemporary version of a wingback chair has gentle curves and an injection-molded foam seat for superior comfort. Five bases and a range of finishes are available to suit any hospitality setting.

contract

DESIGNERS SELECT

The Best for Guests

From seating to surfacing, designers share their go-to products for hospitality spaces

Amy Cheeks, LEED AP, NCIDQ



Senior Interior Designer (Office)
NELSON Worldwide
Cincinnati

Studio A Home: Flat Back Collection

studioa-home.com



"The distinctive shapes of the Flat Vase Collection by Studio A use positive and negative space to draw the eye, creating an energy that lends personality and sophistication to a space."

Phillip Jeffries: Glazier Wallcovering

phillipjeffries.com



"Glazier from Phillip Jeffries features a bold pattern in bright colors that feels very modern and innovative yet has a strong sense of tradition. The broad brushstrokes evoke the feeling of a painting on canvas."

Shaw Contract: Community Collection

shawcontract.com



"The Community pattern collection from Shaw perfectly layers organic texture—which is so desirable right now—with geometries that look hand drawn, establishing designs that are not too rigid and that flow easily from space to space within a hotel."

Geoff di Girolamo



Assoc. AIA, ASLA
Partner
Surfacedesign Inc.
San Francisco

Espasso: Asturias Lounge Chair

espaso.com



"This chair exudes classic and rugged Brazilian modernism, offering a great look for our Bay Area and wine country projects. Designed by Carlos Motta, it's made of reclaimed wood from São Paulo."

Atelier Vierkant: AUI Series

ateliervierkant.com



"Located in Bruges, Belgium, Atelier Vierkant makes exceptionally designed high-fired outdoor clay pots that emphasize subtlety in form, texture, clay pattern, and color. Their fabrication methods and long firing allow for exceptionally large-sized pots that are suitable for planting trees."

Kismet Tile: Scheherazade Cast Concrete Tile

kismettile.com



"Kismet designer and owner Tracey Reinberg is best known for her fresh take on traditional encaustic cement tiles. These durable cast-concrete outdoor wall and floor tiles have bold geometric patterns."

Gina Goodin, LEED AP ID+C



Senior Associate Vice President
CallisonRTKL
Miami

Loll Designs: Adirondack Chair

lolldesigns.com



"I love a good update of a vintage design: striking lines, great colors, and environmentally friendly. With their UV resistance and recycled content, these chairs will stand up to all sorts of outdoor uses."

Botteganove: Flora Collection

botteganove.it



"Is it a fan, a palm, a sunburst? The abstracted pattern of this refractory clay tile makes it appropriate for a variety of uses."

Oggetti Designs: Stillabunt Chandelier

oggettidesigns.com



"An elegant design as a chandelier or single-pendant fixture. Like jewelry for a space—so lovely over a bar or communal table."

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COMPETITION

Take a Seat

Wilsonart challenges young designers to create chairs inspired by contemporary art



In Amy Yan's design, the heart-shaped (or peace-sign-shaped) seat back, in conjunction with the split volume of the seat base, allows the chair to embrace the dualities of love and peace as well as division and separation.

For 16 consecutive years, Wilsonart has brought its Wilsonart Challenges program to different universities across the United States—and this year, for the first time, one outside of the country. For the 2020 edition of Wilsonart Challenges, students at the Ryerson School of Interior Design in Toronto were tasked with designing a one-of-a-kind chair inspired by the principles of contemporary art using the Wilsonart Laminate Collection. Beyond basic forms and function, designs were also informed by how students used expressive and stylistic contemporary elements, such as movement, proportion, contrast, or balance.

The yearlong program, which consists of both a sponsored class and competition, teaches students how to design and build a one-of-a-kind chair, as well as how to prepare for a major trade show. This year, Wilsonart worked with the Ryerson School of Interior

Design and the university's Creative Technology Lab at FCAD, an advanced technology-based workshop that supports creative research, specialized curricula, and entrepreneurship activities across all nine FCAD Schools and Ryerson Zones.

The winner of this year's competition is Amy Yan for her design "THE NOT LOVESEAT"—a chair inspired by the dualistic nature of human relationships and architectural volumes. Two curved seat backs, which look as if they are being stretched apart, create a design that could be viewed as both a heart and a peace sign—suggesting that the chair embraces the dualities of love and peace, along with the notions of splitting and separation.

"My concept was to create a chair that used different volumes to playfully represent two seemingly opposite aspects of human relationships—love and

separation—together in one design," Yan says.

"As a design student, most of my designs stay in 2D drawings, so it was really rewarding to get to see my initial idea go all the way from 2D design to fabrication, to a fully realized chair in this class."

Judges noted that Yan's chair strikes the perfect balance between art and design, while posing the fundamental questions "Can these seemingly opposite notions exist together? Going a step further, can they even exist without each other as conflicting as they may seem?"

"From a chair that explored the contrasting relationship between life and death to one which offers a playful commentary on the history of art and design, this year's students have beautifully expressed both stylistic and functional elements of contemporary art," says Tammy Weadock, communications manager at Wilsonart. "Contemporary art is an ideal guide point for designing with laminate, a modern material that inspires new designs and applications each day."

Five other chairs were named as runners-up: "WILD" by Brittany Boudreau, "STANCE" by Meredith Davis, "PARADOX" by Monica Beckett, "BALANCING ACT" by Alice Sills, and "FRENCH KISS" by Ryan Anning.

"Ryerson emphasized hands-on knowledge of materials more than any other school we have ever seen," says Grace Jeffers, design historian and Wilsonart Challenges program director. "The result is the outstanding quality in craftsmanship of the final chairs." —MEGHAN DWYER

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